determine the wages of the labourers in unorganised sector;

(b) if so, the details and results thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The wages of the workers in the unorganised sectors of employment are fixed under Minimum Wages Act, 1948. Under the Act both the Central and State Governments are the appropriate Governments for fixation of minimum rates of wages for scheduled employments falling under their respective jurisdiction. There is no uniform criteria for fixation of minimum wages and various socio-economic factors influencing the wage rates are taken into account for fixing the wages by the appropriate Government.

बाल श्रम को रोकने के लिए कानून

1010. **श्री नागमणि:**
चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह यादव:

क्या **श्रम** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारत में सर्वाधिक संख्या में बाल श्रमिक हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है; और

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि बाल श्रम को रोकने के लिये बनाए गए कानून असफल हो गए हैं, यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

श्रम मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० पी० वीरेन्द्र कुमार): (क) से (ग) जैसा कि अ०श्र०सं० द्वारा प्रकाशित विश्व श्रम रिपोर्ट 1992 द्वारा सूचित किया गया है भारत में संभवतः श्रम जीवी बच्चों की संख्या सर्वाधिक है। तथापि, 1991 की जनगणना के अनुसार भारत में श्रमजीवी बच्चों की कुल संख्या 1981 की जनगणना में 13.6 मिलियन के आंकड़े की तुलना में 11.28 मिलियन है।

बाल श्रम (प्रतिषेध और विनियमन) अधिनियम 1986 के अंतर्गत बच्चों का नियोजन अधिनियम की अनुसूचि के भाग अ और ब में सन्निहित 7 व्यवसायों और 18 प्रक्रियाओं में प्रतिबद्ध है। विभिन्न अन्य श्रम कानूनों में भी श्रमजीवी बच्चों के हितों की सुरक्षा के कानूनी उपबंध हैं। कानूनी उपायों के अलावा, सरकार ने जोखिमकारी व्यवसायों में कार्यरत बाल श्रमिकों को हटाने और उनके पुनर्वास के लिए उपाय किए हैं। अब तक 1.05 लाख बच्चों को पुनर्वांतित करने के लिए विशेष स्कूलों में दाखिला दिलाया गया है। उच्चतम न्यायालय ने भी समस्या से निपटने के उद्देश्य से हाल ही में अनेक निदेश दिए हैं। सरकार ने उच्चतम न्यायालय के निदेशों के क्रियान्वयन के लिए पहले ही कदम उठाए हैं। बाल श्रम (प्रतिषेध और विनियमन) अधिनियम, 1986 को और कड़ा एवं कारगर बनाने के लिए संशोधन हेतु कुछ सुझाव दिए गए हैं। जबकि संशोधन प्रस्तावों को अन्तिम रूप देते समय इन सुझावों को ध्यान में रखा जाएगा, फिर भी राज्य सरकारों को विद्यमान कानूनों को और कारगर ढंग से क्रियान्वित करने की सलाह दी गई है।

Check on activities of the manpower exporters

1011. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licenced manpower exporters operating in the country and the manpower exported by them during the last three years by top ten agencies, agency-wise;

(b) the present Regulatory Authority and mechanism in operating to regulate the activities of the manpower exporters;

(c) whether Government have initiated stern measures to curb illegal migration executed through licenced manpower exporters alongwith others the details of complaints proved during 1996-97 and the names of companies blacklisted and punishment awarded; and

(d) the names of the Agencies against whom investigations are in progress for their alleged involvement in irregularities committed and steps taken to tighten vigilance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Since the

enactment of the Emigration Act, 1983, 2908 recruiting agents have been registered under the Emigration Act. No separate record relating to agency-wise manpower export is maintained. However, 4.25 lakh, 4.15 lakh & 4.14 lakh workers were given emigration clearance for contractual employment abroad during the last three years.

(b) The activities relating to manpower export are regulated under the Emigration Act, 1983 and the rules framed thereunder. The Act provides for appointment of the protector General of Emigrants as the Registering Authority for issue of registration certificates to the Recruiting Agents for carrying on the business of recruitment of workers for placement abroad and as the Competent Authority for issue of permits for manpower export. Government has also appointed Protectors of Emigrants in eight cities in the country to scrutinise all the requisite documents relating to employment before allowing any emigration clearance.

(c) and (d) Complaints recieved against registered recruiting agents are examined in consultation with the concerned missions abroad and action for suspension and cancellation of their Registration Certificate is taken according to the merits of the cases as provided under the Emigration Act, 1983. In addition to the above, cases are also referred to the Police/C.B.I for investigation.

During the year 1996-97, 107 complaints alleging malpractices were received against the registered recruiting agents. On the basis of these complaints, registration certificates of 20 agents were suspended. A statement indicating the names of these 20 agents is attached. (*see* below) Following two cases were referred to the police authorites for investigation:—

(i) M/s Shepro Tours & Travels, New Delhi.

(ii) M/s Poona Gulf International Travel Services.

Statement

Names of 20 Recruiting agents whose registration certificates were suspended

S.No.	Name of Recruitment Agent
1.	M/s Al-Samit International, Mumbai.
2.	M/s Al-Karim Cons. & Trading Co. Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai.
3.	M/s Realiance Staffing Services, Mumbai.
4.	M/s Golden Wings Travels, Mumbai.
5.	M/s Samreen Travels, Mumbai.
6.	M/s Yusho Corporation, Mumbai.
7.	M/s Hussain Enterprises, Mumbai.
8.	M/s Palakkad Associates, Cochin.
9.	M/s Empire Manpower Consultants, Trivandrum.
10.	M/s Arab International, Cochin.
11.	M/s Sheproo Tours & Travels, New Delhi.
12.	M/s Pass Travel Service, Cochin.
13.	M/s Thamath International, Alleppey.
14.	M/s Rashideen Travel Service, Lucknow.
15.	M/s Way-out, New Delhi.
16.	M/s Al-abid, New Delhi.
17.	M/s S.A.S. Overseas, Chandigarh.
18.	M/s Sterling Travel & Trade Links, Chennai.
19.	M/s Ess Pee Enterprises, Chandigarh.
20.	M/s World Linkers, New Delhi.

Meeting of ILO

1012. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Labour Secretary did not attend the governing body meeting of the International Labour Origanisation (ILO) because of cuts in the allocation of funds for the Labour Department; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?